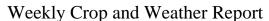


Maryland





October 2, 2006

Small Grain Seeding Underway

Maryland farmers experienced some light spotty rains, but overall conditions are still dry. Bright sunny skies and cooler than normal temperatures allowed farmers to plant small grains, harvest corn and prepare fields and farm equipment for the upcoming winter. There were 5.5 days suitable for field work for the week ending October 1, 2006.

Corn for grain harvest was 49 percent harvested and corn chopped for silage is 100 percent complete. A few full-season soybean fields are being harvested. Most of the soybean crop is turning color and dropping leaves. Fourth cutting alfalfa hay is 67 percent complete, 5 percent ahead of last week. Some farmers have started a fifth cutting of alfalfa hay.

Pastures are rated 2 percent very poor, 12 percent poor, 37 percent fair 41 percent good and 8 percent excellent. Hay supplies were 6 percent very short, 10 percent short, 82 percent adequate, and 2 percent surplus.

MARYLAND'S CROP PROGRESS FOR WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 1, 2006

Item	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	Average 2001-2005					
Field Crops	Percent								
Corn:									
Mature	96	95	90	90					
Harvested for Grain	49	31	40	43					
Corn for Silage	100	98	94	85					
Soybeans:									
Turning Color	80	61	77	66					
Dropping Leaves	54	36	55	39					
Harvested	9	4	11	5					
Barley Planted:	29	10	38	23					
Winter Wheat Planted:	17	7	18	10					
<u>Hay</u>									
Alfalfa Hay 4 th Cutting	67	62	83	70					
Other Hay 4 th Cutting	10	9	49	43					
Fruits Harvested									
Apples	79	69	77	57					

	Topsoil Moisture			Subsoil Moisture			
Condition by Percent	This	Last	Average	This	Last	Average	
	Week	Week	2001-2005	Week	Week	2001-2005	
Very Short	-	-	15	0	0	17	
Short	4	6	23	6	16	21	
Adequate	88	87	50	91	82	53	
Surplus	8	7	12	3	2	9	

Beverly Clark Agricultural Statistician Barbara Rater Director

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 1, 2006

	Precipitation ¹			Temperatures			
Weather Station	Total this week	Total Since Jan 1	Departure from Normal Since Jan 1	High	Low	Average	Departure from Normal
Maryland	week	Jan 1	Since Jan 1				Normai
Baltimore/Washington Airport	1.19	29.49	-1.66	82	42	62	-2
Frederick	0.55	30.06	0.13	78	45	62	3
Frostburg	0.49	27.01	-9.29	69	37	54	-3
Hagerstown	0.38	26.10	-3.15	75	44	60	-3
Mechanicsville	1.32	38.03	3.48	82	43	61	-3
Patuxent River	1.39	29.64	-2.76	87	46	66	3
Ocean City	0.63	27.46	-7.27	81	43	63	-3
Salisbury	0.32	33.30	-1.89	85	37	61	-4
Sharpsburg	0.69	32.68	2.75	78	42	60	1
Stevensville	1.86	34.05	2.06	81	44	65	1
Washington, DC (Reagan National)	1.25	36.19	6.72	83	50	65	-2
Delaware							
Dover	0.61	29.78	-4.27	82	46	64	-2
Georgetown	0.49	32.70	-1.28	84	42	63	0
Wilmington	1.27	37.26	5.95	79	43	62	-2

¹ Precipitation totals as of 7 A.M. on recorded date.

Weather Data is provided by the Agricultural Weather Information Service, Auburn, Alabama and is considered preliminary.

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